

Message Text

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51

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 AF-10 EA-11 IO-14 SWF-02 AID-20

CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-03 INR-11 NSAE-00

RSC-01 CIEP-03 SP-03 STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01

SAM-01 OMB-01 SS-20 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 L-03 AGR-20

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FOR ARA/CAR, EUR/RPE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD EEC XL

SUBJ: KINGSTON CONFERENCE BETWEEN EC AND ACP COUNTRIES

FOL SENT ACTION USIA JULY 25 RPTD FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE: UNCLAS KINGSTON 2579

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KINGSTON, JAMAICA -- JULY 25 -- AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC
NATION DELEGATES TODAY PREPARED TO ENTER NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE NINE
EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY REPS WITH SOMEWHAT MORE HOPE THAN EX-
PRESSED WEDNESDAY WHEN REPORTS REACHED KINGSTON THAT BRITISH EFFORTS
TO ASSURE EEC ACCEPTANCE OF 1.4 MILLION TONS ANNUALLY OF COMMON-
WEALTH SUGAR HAD FAILED.

TEMPERS WERE CALMED WITH THE ARRIVAL OF M. CLAUDE CHEYSSON, EEC
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COMMISSIONER FOR NEGOTIATION AND ACCESSIONS, WHO DENIED NEW REPORT

THAT EITHER FINAL AGREEMENT OR DISAGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED AT BRUSSELS. M. CHEYSSON ARRIVED WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALONG WITH FORTY OTHER EEC DELEGATES AND STAFF MEMBERS. HE SAID THAT THE SUGAR POSITION AT PRESENT WAS THAT HE HAD BEEN ASKED TO PREPARE A DRAFT SUBMISSION FOR THE EEC NEGOTIATORS TO CONSIDER THIS MORNING BEFORE JAMACAN PM MICHAEL MANLEY'S 10:30 AM (EDT) OPENING ADDRESS. AS TO ACP CLAIMS FOR EEC ACCEPTANCE OF SUGAR, M. CHEYSSON SAID HE HAD NOT CHANGED HIS POSITION SINCE AUG 1973, WHEN HE SAID IN INTERVIEW HERE THAT "WE IN THE EEC DO NOT KNOW WHAT QUANTITY OF SUGAR YOU IN THE COMMONWEALTH BLOC WILL BE INTERESTED IN, BUT SO FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED, WE START AT 1.4 MILLION TONS."

COMMONWEALTH NATIONS WERE ALSO BUOYED BY STATEMENT BY FRENCH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES' DELEGATES, WHICH HAVE GENERALLY CONTAINED EXPRESSIONS OF SOLIDARITY WITHIN THE ACP.

"DELEGATES ARE COMING IN WITH THE POLITICAL WILL COME TO A CONCLUSION IN THE PENDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE EEC AND SO GREAT IS THEIR SOLIDERTY ON WHAT IS TO BE SECURED FROM THE NEGOTIATIONS, NO STRATEGY FROM WITHIN THE EUROPEAN BLOC COULD WEAKEN THAT UNITY," SAID M. EMILE KASSA MAPI, GABON MINISTER OF STATE.

SOME FORMER BRITISH COLONIES WERE CONCERNED THAT THE EIGHTEEN FORMER FRENCH COLONIES, WHICH HAVE HAD SPEICAL TRADING RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE EEC, WERE UNLIKELY TO PREJUDICE THE ADVANTAGES THEY ENJOY OF FREE ACCESS FOR THEIR RAW MATERIALS INTO EUROPE AND ACCESS TO THE EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND BY SUPPORTING COMMONWEALTH OBJECTIVES, NOTABLY SUGAR IMPORTS. SUGAR, OF COURSE, IS OF PRIME IMPORTANCE TO CARIBBEAN COMMONWEALTH, AS WELL AS SOME PACIFIC, COUNTRIES SUCH AS FIJI WHOSE PRINCIPAL EXPORT IS SUGAR.

SIR MICHAEL PALLISER OF THE BRITISH NEGOTIATING TEAM ALSO ARRIVED WEDNESDAY NIGHT AND, WHILE NOT SO CERTAIN THAT AGREEMENT WOULD BE REACHED ON SUGAR AS M. CHEYSSON, EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THAT THE OVERALL NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL. SIR MICHAEL, FOR EXAMPLE, FELT THE SENSATIVE ISSUES OF RECIPROCITY COULD BE RESOLVED AMICABLY.
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